

A TERMELŐI ÉS FOGYASZTÓI ÁRAK MAGYARORSZÁG ÉS EU KÖZÖTTI KONVERGENCIÁJA AZ ÉLELMISZERGAZDASÁGBAN

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ABSTRACT – Convergence of the Hungarian and EU producer and retail prices in the agricultural and food sector

The main objective of our analysis is to examine the differences between the Hungarian and EU producer and retail prices. We aimed at finding out whether in the last 8 years the Hungarian and the EU producer and retail prices closed significantly or not, the topic is timely since Hungary joined the EU four years ago.

The producer prices of the recently joined countries are lower than the producer prices of the EU-15. The difference is the largest in the cases of horticultural and animal products. The data analysed clearly show that on the common market of the EU no unified price can be found. The prices align to a price centre; the band of it may vary significantly. The deviance from the centre might narrow by time; however, no unified price can be expected in the future.

Often the retail food prices do not follow – in terms of rate and tendency – the development of the producer prices. The producer prices determine only partly the retail prices; other factors have a larger effect on the prices. Consequently, the retail prices of the EU-15 vary significantly; the differences can be two- or threefold. Between 2000 and 2007 the Hungarian retail food prices approached gradually to the average prices of the EU. From among the countries, which joined the EU in the same year as Hungary the highest retail food prices can be found in Slovenia, Estonia and Hungary.

Kulcsszavak: termelői ár, fogyasztói ár, konvergencia, áreltérés